

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting
September 3, 2014 MINUTES
Location: Senior Center

Present:	Jessica Tharaud, Anton Malin, SeungWan Kang, Eliza Beth, Eli Lerner, Benji Cole, John Kusiak, Mira Li, Alexa Lyons, Meirose Neal
Staff:	Jennifer O'Higgins
Advisory Board Adults:	Matt Green, John Panica, Ruth Goldman, Kathy Marchi, Chris Hardiman, Joe DeVito, Marcy Davidson, Kirsten Tuohy, Susan Swick, Heather Byrns, Ellie Goldman
Guests:	Tom Pomeroy, Elliot Sackman, Jack Lovett, Mayor Warren, Meaghan Maher, Betsy Tyler, Liz Rowland

The meeting was opened at 6:36 PM by Chairperson, Eliza Beth.

Motion to accept the minutes from April and May meetings accepted. June minutes amended to correct date from meeting on September 10th to September 3rd.

Budget Report:

Budget for the year: \$2,500

Balance: \$2,500

Business:

Newton Free Library: Newton Reads

- Events in October centered around *The Beginning of Everything* by Robin Schneider and improving teen and adult communication.
- The library is looking for participation in events from teens and for help spreading information about the Newton Reads events.
- Sign-up sheet passed around, commissioners interested in participating and will connect with Teen Librarian.
- Suggestions given for where else to advertise and how to help spread the word. Feedback to combine community read with one school one book next year.

Discussion of meeting space, day, and time

- Location: Senior Center
- Time/ date: Remain meeting from 6:30-7:30 but change to second Wednesday of each month if available through Senior Center scheduling.

Updates from Mayor Warren:

Community Engagement Initiative:

- Launched new initiative - *Ideas, Action, Leadership*
- Newton 311 App: updating/reporting problems
- Code Red App: sending alerts during emergencies, or about problems or closures
- Events in villages of newton for discussions, suggestions, and updates
- Help from Newton Youth Commission: incorporating youth issues, active participation at events
- Discuss ways to be involved at the October meeting and invite Mayor Warren back for the November meeting to discuss

Voter Registration – presented by Elliot Sackman and Jack Lovett

- Goal: getting 18 year olds registered and voting for November 4th elections
- Announcements, posters, social media, registration tables at Newton North and Newton South
- Help from Newton Youth Commission: ideas from students on how to encourage 18 year olds to register and vote
- Feedback to brainstorm ways to engage private school youth as well
- Posters that simplify the steps needed to register
- Jack and Elliot invited back to October meeting to continue discussion

Next meeting date is October 1st

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Alexa Lyons, Commissioner.